

Wilder (B. G.)

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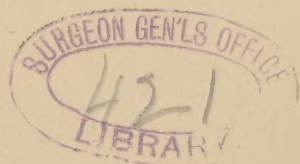
EXCERPT FROM THE TRANSACTIONS OF THE
AMERICAN NEUROLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.

*Sixteenth Annual Meeting, held at Philadelphia, June 4th,
5th, and 6th, 1890.*

✓ Dr. BURT G. WILDER, of Ithaca, N. Y., exhibited the left hemicerebrum of Chauncey Wright, and made the following remarks:

Mr. Wright was a well-known philosophical writer and general critic, who died in Boston in 1875, at the age of forty-five. His brain was removed by Dr. Thomas Dwight, now professor of anatomy in the Harvard Medical School, who published a brief description of it, with a diagrammatic figure of the left side, in a paper entitled "Remarks upon the Brain of a Distinguished Man" ("American Academy Proceedings," 1877, xiii., 210-215). It has since been generously loaned to the writer by Prof. Dwight for fuller study and publication.

A large number of photographs of the two hemicerebrums have been taken, from all aspects, oblique as well as direct, and copies of these photographs are herewith submitted. In the "Reference Handbook of the Medical Sciences," viii., the lateral aspect of the left hemicerebrum is shown in Fig. 4779, and in Fig. 4781 the dorsal aspect of the entire cerebrum with the ends of the occipital fissures and the central fissures, which latter are completely interrupted by an isthmus at about the junction of the middle and dorsal thirds. The present exhibition is mainly for the sake of enabling members of the Association to see an example of this rare fissural anomaly, the number of cases observed hitherto not exceeding fourteen out of the thousands of brains examined. It seems probable, however, as remarked by Heschl and Dwight, that there is not infre-



quently an incomplete interruption of the central fissure, constituting a *vadum* (shallow, or "concealed *pli de passage*"), and this should be looked for when practicable.

About fifteen points of interest respecting this brain are noted in the "Handbook," p. 158. Pending a future complete description, the following additions or corrections are made now :

The semicircular fissure just ventrad of the postcentral is probably the *subcentral*, first observed by the writer in brains numbered 385 and 2268, in the museum of Cornell University ("Handbook," viii., 152, note). The partial exposure of the insula in this brain of a highly intellectual person is especially noteworthy in connection with its similar exposure in an uneducated mulatto, and its complete occlusion in most apes and monkeys. A careful study of the insula will be made by the removal of the several operculums, kindly authorized by Prof. Dwight.

In the published figure the bifurcated fissure between the orbital and the ventral end of the precentral is identified as the presylvian ("ascending branch"). Recent studies of this region have thrown doubts upon this determination and upon Herve's affirmation as to the greater constancy of the subsylvian ("horizontal branch") in Primates.

In this connection the attention of members of the Association was asked to the printed "Commentary upon Fissural Diagrams;"¹ also to the series of large wall-maps (about two meters square), recently made under his immediate direction, by Mrs. S. H. Gage, from specimens prepared by him for Cornell University. They embrace: (*a*) the mesal aspect of the entire head of a man and a chimpanzee whose brains were hardened in the cranium by continuous alinjection; (*b*) the lateral aspect of the brain of the chimpanzee and an adult mulatto; (*c*) the brain of a child at birth; (*d*) six human foetal brains at as many stages of development, illustrating especially the formation of the Sylvian fissure.

¹ Copies may be had upon application to Dr. Burt G. Wilder, Ithaca, N. Y.